From: Dennis (038) Diana Wright

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/16/02 8:08pm

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I think the settlement should be something along these lines:

To compensate for past abuses:

1. Heavy \$ fine that is proportional to the \$ gain they have achieved as a result of these practices. This somewhat corrects for penalty for past sins.

To avert future abuses:

- 2. They should have to publicly publish all APIs in the Windows Operating Systems.
- 3. Require them to release applications programs on ALL platforms simultaneously with equivalent features. They should not be allowed to schedule releases for a competing platform at much later dates than the applications on the Windows platforms. They have used this quite cleverly in the past to yank other companies around by threatening to drop support for other platforms (with their Office Suite) when other platforms need the Windows applications to exist because their predatory practices have created the monopolies. This will remove the "platform preference" issue that Microsoft so cleverly uses by creating second-rate applications for other platforms. I cite their slow native support for the Macintosh PowerPC chip by not have any native applications for almost two years after most other companies. When Office Word 5.0 appeared, it was doggedly slow. The point of that was to slow the adoption of the PowerPC and to impede Apple from making gains against the Intel Pentium Chip.
- 4. Require them to publish all file formats for all their applications. This will allow competitors to write similar programs that can compete with Microsoft's and yet interact with Microsoft software at a file level. Currently no one can do that because Microsoft keeps those things secret. Some reverse engineering of these file formats has been done, but with limited success. Microsoft keeps changing them so that if someone were to figure them out, that knowledge would be obselete possibly on the next release.

Microsoft and its CEO have revealed to the world during the anti-trust trial of what liars and thieves they are. Please impose severe punishment on them and rid America's computing desktop of the Microsoft criminals. They are a blight on technological development!

Robert Wright